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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6441
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2598

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: SECOND MEETING, ROUND TWO, US-USSR BILATERALS ON CW, APRIL 4, 1977

1. SUMMARY: US AND USSR DELS MET AFTERNOON, APRIL 4, TO CONTINUE SECOND ROUND OF BILATERALS ON CW. USSR DEL MADE MINOR ELABORATION ON SOVIET VERIFICATION POSITION AND PRESENTED PAPER ON VERIFICATION OF DECLARED STOCKS. US DEL MADE BRIEF STATEMENT ON SCOPE OF PROHIBITION AND POSED QUESTIONS REGARDING SOVIET POSITION ON VERIFICATION.
END SUMMARY

2. THE SECOND MEETING OF ROUND TWO OF THE US/USSR BILATERALS CONSULTATIONS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) CONVENED AFTERNOON APRIL 4, AT US MISSION. BOTH DEL HEADS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS OF APRIL 1 MEETING; USSR REP (LIKHATCHEV) SAID HE "WANTED TO CONTINUE DELIBERATIONS IN AS ACTIVE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE."

3. USSR REP (LIKHATCHEV) REFERRED TO STATEMENT ON CW VERIFICATION CONTAINED IN SOVIET MEMORANDUM ON DISARMAMENT SUBMITTED TO UNGA IN FALL OF 1976. HE NOTED THAT USSR HAD
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PREPARED PAPER ON QUESTION OF VERIFICATION OF DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED STOCKS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, WHICH SPELLS OUT THE SOVIET POSITION ON THE US WORKING PAPER PRESENTED TO THE USSR IN MAY 1976 (STATE 128632; 25 MAY 1976) AND LATER INTRODUCED AT THE CCD (DOC. CCD/497). COPY OF SOVIET PAPER WAS PROVIDED TO US SIDE (PAPER BEING POUCHED).

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4. ACCORDING TO USSR REP THEIR PAPER SHOWS READINESS OF SOVIET SIDE TO DISCUSS METHODS FOR VERIFICATION OF STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PAPER WOULD LEAD TO FASTER PROGRESS TOWARD JOINT INITIATIVE AND ACHIEVEMENT OF AGREEMENT ON "BASIC ELEMENTS" OF CW CONVENTION.

5. PAPER STATES THAT "THE MAIN PURPOSE OF CONTROL OVER THE DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED STOCKS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS SHOULD BE TO RECORD: (A) THE FACT OF DESTRUCTION OF AN AGENT OF A CERTAIN TYPE, (B) QUANTITY OF THE AGENT DESTROYED, (C) QUALITY OF THE AGENT AND THE APPROPRIATELY DOCUMENTED RESULTS OF THE VERIFICATION." REFERENCE IS MADE TO PRINCIPLE OF NATIONAL CONTROL OVER DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL AGENTS.

6. METHOD OF VERIFYING DESTRUCTION OUTLINED IN PAPER IS BASED ON MONITORING QUANTITY OF CHEMICALS (FOR EXAMPLE, ALKALI) NEEDED TO DESTROY AGENT. CONCLUSION IS THAT "EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER THE DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED STOCKS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IS FEASIBLE PROVIDED PREPARATORY WORK IS CARRIED OUT AS WELL AS CHEMICAL ANALYSIS, AND STATISTICAL RECORDS ARE KEPT OF QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF DESTROYED CHEMICAL AGENTS IN TERMS OF MAIN (ACTIVE) SUBSTANCE."

7. MEMBER US DEL (MAHLBERG) DISCUSSED BRIEFLY FOUR TOPICS UNDER THE GENERAL HEADING OF SCOPE AND ASKED FOR SOVIET REACTION. TOPICS ADDRESSED INCLUDED THE NUMBER OF TOXICITY CRITERIA WHICH SHOULD BE USED IN DEFINING SCOPE, TREATMENT OF INCAPACITATING AGENTS, COVERAGE OF FUTURE CW DEVELOPMENTS AND THE INCLUSION OF AGENT PRECURSORS.
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8. US DEL MEMBER (MIKULAK) ASKED FOUR QUESTIONS CONCERNING RECENT SOVIET STATEMENTS AT CCD AND IN PREVIOUS BILATERAL SLESSION ON VERIFICATION: (1) IN WHAT WAY DID SOVIETS BELIEVE US SUGGESTIONS FOR SAFEGUARDING SENSITIVE INFORMATION DURING ON-SITE INSPECTION NOT ADEQUATE? (2) WHAT TECHNICAL INFORMATION HAD LED USSR TO CONCLUDE THAT REMOTE AIR SAMPLING EFFECTIVE MEANS OF VERIFICATION? (3) DID SOVIETS BELIEVE METHOD EXISTED FOR DETECTING HIDDEN STOCKPILES? (4) DID SOVIETS BELIEVE STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE CERTAIN TYPES OF DATA ON CHEMICAL PRODUCTION AS OUTLINED BY US SIDE? SORENSON

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